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By *ADAM FITZ-ADAM.*

To be continued every THURSDAY.

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FOR ſeveral weeks paſt, I have been conſidering with myſelf how I might extend the uſe and entertainment of theſe my labours: for though thouſands of my countrymen have experienced and are ready to atteſt their ſalutary effects, yet it cannot be denied but that there are ſtill people to be met with, who are by no means as wiſe and as good as they ought to be. General ſatire, as I have formerly obſerved, is what few people care to apply to themſelves; and though I have hitherto been averſe to particular and perſonal abuſe, I am at laſt willing to try it's effect, well-knowing that

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if the good which may accrue from it be but in the proportion of one in a million to the entertainment it gives, I ſhall have reaſon to bleſs myſelf for thus quarrelling with the world. I am ſenſible alſo, that by adopting this method, I am encreaſing the number of my correſpondents, as every one will be for trying his hand on ſo delightful a ſubject as the failings of his friends; eſpecially when I ſhall have given him my honour that he need be under no apprehenſions for his ſafety, and that I will take every quarrel upon myſelf. I therefore hereby invite all perſons whatſoever to tranſmit to me forthwith all the ſcandal they can either collect or invent. Names, and particularly great ones, will be very acceptable; or in default of ſuch names, minute deſcriptions of perſons, their alliances and connections, or the ſtreets they live in, will be equally agreeable. Great regard will be paid to the letters of female correſpondents; but it is humbly hoped that they will not ſuffer the copiouſneſs and enticement of the ſubject to hurry them into lengths that may exceed the bounds of this paper.

I AM ſenſible that a great deal of courage, and an equal degree of dexterity at ſingle rapier, will be neceſſary upon this occaſion; but, as I ſaid before, I am contented to take the whole upon myſelf, rather than lay my correſpondents under any reſtraint: my name is Adam Fitz-Adam; I am to be heard of every morning at the Tilt-yard coffee-houſe, and, though an old man, ſhall be ready to give any gentleman ſatisfaction, who chuſes to call upon me in a hackney coach, and frank me to Hyde park, or Montague houſe.

To extend the uſefulneſs of this paper ſtill farther, it is my intention (notwithſtanding any former declaration

tion to the contrary) to mix politics with ſlander. I am in a manner compelled to make this ſecond alteration in my plan, from a thorough conviction that no man in theſe kingdoms is ſuch a maſter of politics as myſelf; and as a war with France ſeems now to be inevitable, I ſhall from time to time inſtruct our miniſters in what manner to conduct it, and ſhall hope for an exact compliance with every plan I ſhall lay before them. This will be ſaving a great deal of trouble and perplexity to the common people of England, who, though always ready to inſtruct an adminiſtration, are ſometimes ſo divided in their opinions, that the ſaid adminiſtration are forced to purſue their own meaſures, for want of plain and punctual inſtructions from their friends.

The better to carry on this laudable deſign, I ſhall direct what bills are proper to be brought into parliament, and what acts I would have repealed. I ſhall alſo devote three mornings in every week to the private inſtruction of all ſuch miniſters and members of parliament, as are deſirous of conferring with me at my lodgings up two pair of ſtairs at the Trunk-maker's in St. Martin's Lane. I ſhall likewiſe be ready to anſwer all queſtions in politics to ſuch gentlemen and ladies as would willingly inveſtigate that ſcience without ſtudy or application. This will tend greatly to the edification of all juſtices of the peace, nurſes, midwives, country curates, and pariſh clerks, whoſe ideas ſeem at preſent to be a littleconfuſed, for want of a thorough knowledge of the intereſts and connections of the ſeveral ſtates of Europe, and how the balance of power is to be maintained. I ſhall keep a watchful eye over the king of France and his miniſters, and will give timely notice of any intended

tended invaſions, and direct meaſures to defeat ſuch invaſions in proper time. I ſhall find means of inſtructing the other powers of Europe in their true and natural intereſts, and will communicate in this paper the intelligence I ſhall from time to time receive from the ſaid powers; ſo that the public ſhall always be apprized beforehand of the meaſures they intend to take.

When I conſider the vaſt utility of this my undertaking, I cannot be too thankful for the abilities I am bleſſed with for the carrying it on to the univerſal ſatisfaction of all parties. My humanity is, I confeſs, a little hurt, by reflecting that while I am thus making a monopoly of politics and ſlander, I am doing an injury to thoſe of my brother authors, who have long lived by dealing out their occaſional portions of thoſe commodities. But I am comforted upon ſecond thoughts, that as this paper is publiſhed once a week, they will have continued opportunities of enriching their own larger compoſitions with the moſt ſhining parts of it: and this they ſhall have free leave to do, provided that they add no conjectures of their own, or pretend to doubt the ſuperiority of my abilities, whereby diſputes may be raiſed upon any of thoſe facts which I ſhall think proper to advance. The ſame indulgence is hereby given to all writers or compilers of country news-papers in Great Britain and Ireland: for as I have only the good of my country at heart, I am deſirous of extending theſe my labours to the remoteſt parts of his Majeſty's dominions. I ſhall alſo have this farther ſatisfaction, that the general complaint of the country's being deſerted of inhabitants every winter may ceaſe, as by means of this circulation, every private gentleman may reſide conſtantly at his ſeat, and every clergyman at his living, without being obliged once a year to pay a viſit to London,

London, in order to ſtudy politics, and inſtruct the adminiſtration.

But a much greater advantage than any yet mentioned, remains ſtill to be told. The circulation of this paper will not be confined to Great Britain and Ireland; it will doubtleſs be demanded in all the courts, cities and large towns of Europe; by which means our enemies on the continent, finding the ſuperiority of our wiſdom, and knowing by whom our counſellors are counſelled, will ſue to us for peace upon our own terms. In the mean time, as we are entering into a war, not of our own ſeeking, but merely in defence of our commerce, and for the protection and ſupport of our undoubted rights, I ſhall direct the adminiſtration how to raiſe ſuch ſupplies, as may enable us to carry it on with vigour and ſucceſs; and this I hope to effect to everybody's ſatisfaction, which I humbly apprehend, has not always been the caſe.

I am well aware that there are certain ſuperficial perſons in the world, who may fancy that they have not diſcovered in my writings hitherto, theſe marvellous abilities, to which I am now laying claim. To all ſuch I ſhall only anſwer, let the event decide: for I have always thought it beneath me to boaſt of talents ſuperior to other men, till the neceſſity of the times compel me to produce them. Thoſe who know me, will ſay of me what modeſty forbids I ſhould ſay of myſelf: indeed it has been owing to a very uncommon degree of that ſheepiſh quality, that I have not let my readers into many ſecrets of myſelf, that would have amazed and confounded them.

I have undertaken politics and ſlander at the ſame time, from a conſtant obſervation that there is a certain connection between thoſe ſciences, which it is difficult

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